

Vegetation Response to Alien Species Control in the `Ola`a-Kilauea Management Area

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Stenogyne calaminthoides, a native mint.

Objectives:

- ☆ Identify new potential plant pest species coming into the area
- ☆ Track changes in native and alien species distribution and frequency over time
- ☆ Assess distribution and status of rare plant and animal species

Accomplishments:

- ☆ Four years of weed data collected
- ☆ Identified several new invasive species in new and previous areas
- ☆ Pre- and post-management data gathered on understory vegetation
- ☆ Prepared species list with digital reference images to facilitate field identification by management staff

Significance:

- ☆ Invasive alien species pose the greatest threat to maintenance of Hawaiian ecosystems
- ☆ Adaptive management programs need to be supported by monitoring data
- ☆ Monitoring strategies and results can be applied to other areas